

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
3 February 2005 (03.02.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/010199 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **C12Q**

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2004/022465

(22) International Filing Date: 14 July 2004 (14.07.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
60/488,177 16 July 2003 (16.07.2003) US  
60/532,102 23 December 2003 (23.12.2003) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): GE-NEOHM SCIENCES, INC. [US/CA]; 6146 Nancy Ride Lane, Suite 101, San Diego, CA 92121 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): CROTHERS, Donald, M. [US/CA]; 8 Surrey Drive, Northford, CT 06472 (US). EIS, Peggy, S. [US/CA]; 10769 Calle Mar de Mariposa, San Diego, CA 92130 (US).

(74) Agent: MALLON, Joseph, J.; Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main Street, Fourteenth Floor, Irvine, CA 92614 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

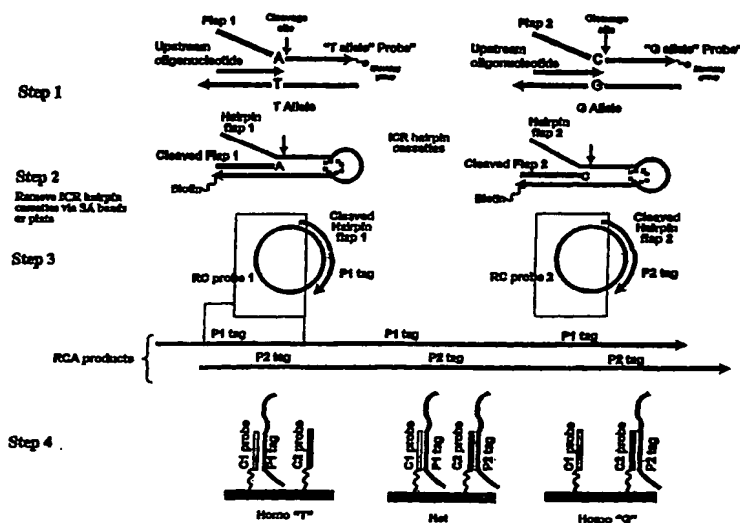
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INVASIVE CLEAVAGE REACTION WITH ELECTROCHEMICAL READOUT



(57) Abstract: A universal tag assay is disclosed wherein at least one invasive cleavage reaction (ICR) is used to generate tagged molecules having identifier tags corresponding to target nucleotide sequences, and further wherein hybridization of any tagged molecule with a complementary detection probe on a universal detector indicates the presence of the corresponding target in the sample being assayed. Preferred embodiments include the use of ICR to generate molecules suitable for use in the universal tag assay to detect variant nucleotide sequences including single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), allelic variants, and splice variants. Hybridization of tagged molecules to detection probes is preferably detected by electrochemical readout, in particular the use of ruthenium amperometry to detect hybridization of identifier tags to detection probes immobilized on a universal detector, preferably a universal chip having gold or carbon electrodes.

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